

NEW ISSUE IN CANAL SCHEME

A Company Claims to Own Nicaraguan Route.

REPORT SENT TO SENATOR MORGAN.

United States Must, It is Said, Deal With One of Two Corporations in Execution of the Isthmian Waterway.

When the United States Government finally decides to construct an inter-oceanic canal, connecting the water of the Atlantic and the Pacific, Congress will be compelled, it is said, to deal with one of two corporations. While the Nicaraguan route has practically been decided upon, any outcome which might cause a change could only bring about the other available route, that owned and controlled by the Panama Canal Company, of France.

Where the Trouble Begins.

It was believed that the United States could construct the waterway cheaper and more rapidly over the Nicaraguan route, but a new factor has developed which promises to cause much trouble and cost a large sum of money.

New Phase of the Question.

Senator Morgan, Chairman of the Committee on Inter-oceanic Canals, has received a document, bearing the New York postmark, containing statements which may cause a reverse in the present progress of the isthmian canal question. The points laid down are as follows:

That the "Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua," an organization incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, has full and complete control of the route selected by the Isthmian Canal Commission and surveyed by that body.

That the said company has acquired by purchase all concessions and franchises looking to the construction of a waterway through Nicaraguan territory.

Owens Land and Rights.

That this company owns every foot of the land between Lake Nicaragua and the Pacific Ocean, which is at all available for the construction of the canal.

That this company has secured possession of the route and has erected buildings and machinery and has actually begun work on an isthmian waterway.

That thus far the company has expended \$1,772,771 in cash for the lands secured and that the concessions granted by the Nicaraguan Government are sweeping and cover everything.

That the United States cannot begin the construction of the proposed waterway without purchasing from this company all franchises, lands, and concessions now held by it.

Backed by Official Documents.

These are the facts which have come to light through the report submitted to and received by Senator Morgan. The statements are backed by official documents, and Secretary Hay, of the State Department, and Secretary Hitchcock, of the Interior Department, send endorsements which prove the actual status of the corporation and its operation.

Officers and Directors.

The officers of the Maritime Canal Company are Henry E. Howland, president; T. B. Atkins, secretary, and Joseph Bryan, Henry E. Alvin, S. H. Chisholm, John R. Bartlett, Otto T. Bannard, A. D. Shepherd, H. L. Hotchkiss, H. D. Pierce, R. C. Shannon, and Edward Menocal, board of directors. Mainly all of the above are prominent New York financiers.

A Complex Situation.

Under the existing conditions this Government does not appear to be much better off by choosing the Nicaraguan route than it would be were it to submit to the ironclad terms of the Panama Canal Company. The Maritime Company, it is expected, has made a clever play in securing what the United States must purchase, and the waterway, in the opinion of many Senators will be a costly affair, even before the first shovel of earth is removed.

The report of the Maritime Company will be submitted to the Senate, and action will be taken when the Canal bill is called up.

THE APPROPRIATION BILLS.

House Committee Meets and Organizes for the Session.

At the first meeting of the Appropriations Committee this morning, James C. Carter was re-elected clerk for the tenth consecutive term. John D. Cronmer and Kennedy F. Rex were elected assistant clerks.

Chairman Cannon made the following distribution of the regular appropriation bills for the Fifty-seventh Congress, by allotment to the following subcommittees: Sundry Civil—J. G. Cannon, W. H. Moody, J. A. Hemenway, T. C. McFate, and M. E. Benton.

Legislative—H. H. Bingham, J. A. Hemenway, L. N. Litauer, L. F. Livingston, and G. W. Taylor.

District of Columbia—J. T. McCleary, W. H. Moody, E. J. Burke, M. E. Benton, and R. A. Pierce.

Pensions—S. S. Barney, H. C. Van Voorhis, W. P. Brownlow, J. C. Bell, and G. W. Taylor.

Fortifications—J. A. Hemenway, L. N. Litauer, W. Garner, T. C. McFate, and J. C. Bell.

Deficiencies—J. G. Cannon, S. S. Barney, H. C. Van Voorhis, L. F. Livingston, and R. A. Pierce.

Permanent Appropriations—W. H. Moody, W. P. Brownlow, W. Gardner, R. A. Pierce, and G. W. Taylor.

MR. BLACKBURN'S MARRIAGE.

Obtains a License for His Union With Mrs. Mary Blackburn.

A marriage license was issued today to J. C. Blackburn, of Kentucky, and Mrs. Mary E. Blackburn, of this city.

The "Royal Libertine."

Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Exclusively Pullman train buffet smoking car, parlor, observation, dining and cafe cars. Leaves Washington daily 3 p. m. No extra fare other than regular Pullman charge.

NO TREATY ARRANGED YET.

Reports in regard to an Agreement With Nicaragua Denied.

Morning despatches from Managua, Nicaragua stating that Minister Merry has concluded a treaty with this country and Nicaragua by which certain rights of way for a canal are given to the United States are in error. No treaty or protocol for a treaty has been arranged, State Department officials say.

Mr. Merry was commissioned to ascertain what Nicaragua was willing to do, provided the new Hay-Pauncefote treaty should be ratified and the Nicaraguan route should be decided upon. These instructions he has carried out and the State Department is now prepared to answer interrogatories by the Senate on this point.

Nicaragua, it is said, is willing to grant the United States on her former terms, a right of way six miles wide covering the proposed route of the canal.

TARIFF PROPOSED FOR PHILIPPINES.

CHAIRMAN PAYNE REPORTS BILL.

Measure to Be Considered by the House at Once—Its Advocates Hope It Will Pass This Week.

The Republican members of the House Committee on Ways and Means, after venting their differences of opinion relative to proper treatment of the Philippine tariff question, agreed on a bill which was introduced today by Chairman Payne.

It establishes the Dingley tariff on goods coming to the United States from the Philippines, but for a term of three years, beginning January 1, 1902, the provisions restricting to vessels of the United States transportation of passengers and merchandise direct or indirect from one port of the United States to another port of the United States shall not be applicable to foreign vessels engaging in trade between the Philippines and the United States. The duties collected under this act, when based on weight, shall be held to mean on weight at the time of entry.

The last provision is as follows:

"That all articles manufactured in bonded manufacturing warehouses in whole or in part of imported materials, or of materials subject to internal revenue tax and intended for exportation from the United States to the Philippine Islands, and all articles subject to internal revenue tax and intended for exportation from the United States to the Philippines shall, when so exported, under such regulation as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, be exempt from internal revenue tax, and shall not be charged with duty except the duty levied under this act upon imports into the Philippines."

To Pass Bill This Week.

The Committee on Rules will report a special rule for the consideration of the bill and it is the purpose of the Republicans to pass it this week.

Chairman Payne announced sub-committees of the Committee on Ways and Means today with the following chairmen: Customs, Mr. Payne of New York; Administration Customs Laws, Mr. Russell of Connecticut; Internal Revenue, Mr. Steele of Indiana; Public Debt, Mr. Dalzell of Pennsylvania; Reciprocity and Commercial Treaties, Mr. Hopkins of Illinois; Miscellaneous, Mr. Grosvenor of Ohio.

It was decided by the committee this morning that the Cuban representative will not be heard until after the holiday recess. The committee will meet again tomorrow morning, when it will take up the Philippine tariff bill, typewritten copies of which were furnished the Democratic members of the committee today.

"FROM ANARCHY DELIVER US."

Text of the Prayer at the Opening of the Senate Today.

"From anarchy, good Lord, deliver us." This was the text of the opening prayer in the Senate this morning. It was delivered by Rev. E. J. Prentiss, who replaced the regular chaplain.

Senator Turner introduced a bill for the establishment of a United States mint at Tacoma, Wash.

Senator McCombs offered a bill for the increase of the salaries of the justices of the peace in the District of Columbia.

Senator McMillan introduced a bill to regulate electric wiring in the District of Columbia.

Senator Martin introduced a bill for the construction of a memorial bridge across the Potomac, from Washington to the Arlington property.

Senator Gallinger introduced a bill to protect the lives of the President, Vice President, Cabinet officers, and Ambassadors.

A bill appointing an assistant librarian of the Senate was passed.

At 12:45 the Senate went into executive session to consider the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

RODNEY CASE CONCLUDED.

Both Suits Now Awaiting the Decision of the Judge.

The reading of the testimony in the suits of Mrs. Margaret E. Rodney against Lieut.-Com. Robert Burton Rodney, U. S. N., retired, for limited divorce and that of Mr. Rodney against his wife for absolute divorce, was concluded today.

The cases were submitted to Justice Hagner for decision without argument by counsel.

To Purchase Mr. Cobb's "America."

Representative McCall has introduced a bill authorizing the Joint Committee on Library to purchase the statue by Cyrus Cobb, entitled "America," to be placed in the Capitol or new Library Building.

Flynn's Business College, 5th and K.

Business, shorthand, typewriting—\$25 a year.

NO CLUE TO MRS. DENNIS' ASSAILANT.

The Injured Woman Unable to Talk.

NO HOPE FOR HER RECOVERY

Police Using Every Effort to Solve Mystery

VICTIM AT GARFIELD HOSPITAL.

Attacked While Asleep at Her Home on K Street—Weapon Used Believed to Have Been Top of a Piano Stool.

Profound mystery surrounds a murderous assault made at an early hour this morning upon Mrs. Ada Gilbert Dennis, one of the most fashionable dressmakers of the city. Mrs. Dennis was beaten almost to death by some unknown person or persons while asleep in bed at her home, 1117 K Street northwest, presumably somewhere in the neighborhood of 5 o'clock.

It is thought that she had no opportunity to see her assailant, but from her rambling remarks during several semi-conscious periods since the assault, it is believed that if she recovers sufficiently to talk she will be able to throw some light upon the case.

Detective Hartigan and Assistant District Attorney Semmes tried to secure some statement from her today, but without result.

The Probable Weapon Used.

It is believed that the weapon used by Mrs. Dennis' assailant was the top of a piano stool, which had been uncrowned, and was found on the floor near the window through which the perpetrator of the crime made his escape.

Mrs. Dennis' skull was badly fractured. Her left jaw was also fractured, the left ear terribly lacerated and nearly torn off; there was a number of lacerated wounds back of the left ear and an equal number of similar ones on the left cheek. Dr. J. Ford Thompson, who performed an operation upon the unfortunate woman later at the Garfield Hospital, where she was removed, stated that the condition of the fracture above the eye indicates an unfavorable prognosis, although Mrs. Dennis had a remote chance for recovery.

Many Detectives at Work.

Almost the entire detective force of the city are at work upon the case. Their labors are being directed by Captain Boardman, who was upon the scene early. His own plans are under the immediate direction of Major Sylvester, who is giving his undivided attention to the assault. The District Attorney's office is also well represented in the investigation. Captain Bingham, Mr. Semmes, Ralph Given and a stenographer are taking part.

Motive for the Crime.

The idea of burglary as the motive is eliminated by the fact that a box containing \$7.57 in change and a pocketbook with nearly \$100 in cash were left undisturbed upon a table near the bed. A handsome diamond ring upon her finger was also undisturbed as were a number of other pieces of jewelry that could have been removed. The attack was most brutal and has every evidence of having been premeditated and done in cold blood.

Mrs. Dennis is about forty-five years of age, of handsome figure and pleasant features, and one of the leading modistes of the National Capital. She is the widow of a once prominent actor, Walter Dennis, who died about nine years ago.

Mrs. Dennis was found about 5 o'clock this morning. She has shown signs of consciousness but once since, and then quickly relapsed into a comatose condition, in which she has since remained. She evidenced signs of returning intelligence for but a moment, and was unable to communicate with those about her.

Recognized the Physician.

(Once she regained consciousness for a moment just before she was being removed to the hospital and when Dr. Atkinson asked her if she knew him, Mrs. Dennis nodded assent. In response to a question as to who assaulted her she replied: "Never mind.")

Mrs. Dennis has for the past three years occupied the house on K Street. It was formerly the residence of Mr. Clark, the coal merchant. She has rented out a portion of the house to roomers while the rest of the premises has been used by her in the conduct of a dressmaking establishment. Mrs. Dennis at present employs twenty-six seamstresses.

Detectives in the Dark.

The detectives are absolutely in the dark as to the object of the assault upon the woman. It was not known among her friends and acquaintances that she had an enemy in the world, though she had been heard to remark that she feared that someone would enter her home and do her bodily harm.

Mrs. Dennis reserved for her own use what had been intended for the two parlors. The front one is used as a parlor and sitting room, and the back parlor she occupied as her own bedroom. In this she slept alone. On the front of the house and extending across the two parlor windows is a balcony, which is about eight feet above the ground. This balcony may also be easily reached by the front staircase, the top landing of which is on a level with the balcony and removed from it by a little over a foot.

Last night Mrs. Dennis retired in her usual frame of mind and retired at her accustomed hour.

At 4:05 o'clock this morning a newspaper reporter who rooms in the house entered and went to his room. He detected nothing unusual about the premises and retired for the night.

Mrs. Mary Doyle, who has a room on the second floor of the house, directly over the one occupied by Mrs. Dennis, heard a noise coming apparently from the register in the room, about 5 o'clock. At first

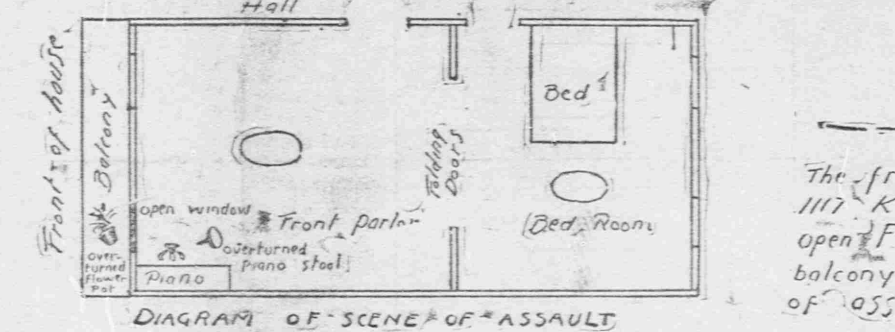
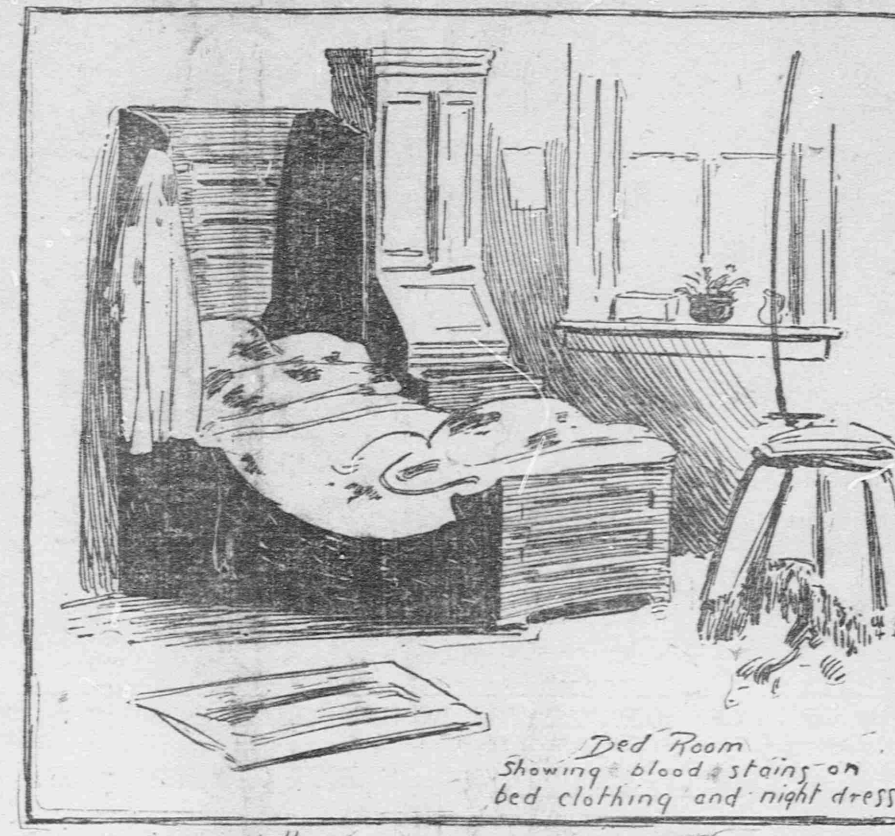


DIAGRAM OF SCENE OF ASSAULT

she thought there was a cat in the house, but a moment later she heard her name faintly called. Hurriedly donning a wrapper, she traced the sounds to Mrs. Dennis' room. As she reached the back parlor door she heard Mrs. Dennis call to her:

"Mary, don't you know me?"

Mrs. Doyle tried to open the door, but it was locked, and groans were the only reply to her request that she be admitted. Going to the room above, she asked Smith Winchell, a carpenter, who went downstairs and forced the door to the room. Everything was in total darkness, but when a light was made it revealed a ghastly scene within the room.

Attacked While in Bed.

The unfortunate woman lay on her bed, apparently never having awakened from the slumber in which her assailant found her. The bed and her garments were covered with blood and her right ear was hanging by a thread. The rest of the room was apparently in perfect order, nothing having been upset or disturbed. In the front parlor the top of the piano stool was found. It had been uncrowned from the base and several fresh abrasions on it indicated that it was the weapon that had been used by the intruder.

How the Escape Was Made.

Nearly an open window, an overturned flower pot showed the manner in which, it is thought, the intruder had made his escape. The fact that this pot had fallen outward on the balcony led the detectives to believe that the window was used as a means of escape. It was the only opening into the two rooms that was unfastened, however, and unless the person was secreted in the room it must have been the means by which entrance was secured, as well.

That the assailant was secreted in the room seems improbable, in view of the length of time between the hour when Mrs. Dennis retired and the time when the assault is believed to have been committed.

Charles Thomas, a roomer in the house, was hastily dispatched for a physician and quickly returned with Dr. Atkinson, who, seeing the serious nature of the case, sent for Dr. Hoce to assist him. Mrs. Dennis was vomiting blood, with which her clothing was saturated. There was a pool of blood upon the floor near the bed. Beside the bed of Mrs. Dennis, in the open drawer of a dresser, was a small pistol that apparently was kept by the modiste for just such an emergency. This had not been touched.

Removed to the Hospital.

Mrs. Atkinson and Hoce remained with the woman the greater part of the morning and only left to arrange for her removal to Garfield Hospital. This was accomplished shortly before 11 o'clock. Mrs. Dennis was at once carried to the operating room, where Dr. J. Ford Thompson, Drs. Atkinson and Hoce, and House Physicians Davis and Reichelder had already assembled. No time was lost in beginning the operation.

Nature of the Fracture.

It was found that the fracture over the eye was about one and one-half inches in length and extended upward and outward. The operation took nearly an hour and half, and at its conclusion the physicians stated that while she had stood the operation splendidly, her chances of recovery were but slight. They directed that no one be permitted to see the sufferer and placed a special nurse to look after her. Mrs. Dennis will not be disturbed for twenty-four hours unless there is a decided collapse.

There are but few clues for the police to work upon. The most important of these is a bloody hand print upon a piano case that stood near the window where the assailant made his escape. District Chemist Hird was called upon to analyze this print.

A significant feature of the case is that several of the persons about the house and in the neighborhood expressed the opinion that the assault was the work of negroes, but refused to give their reasons for their belief. The detectives are more inclined to the opinion that it was the work of some infuriated woman, and the marks upon the piano, they claim, bear out this theory.

CARNEGIE PLAN IN DETAIL.

An Explanation by Carroll D. Wright.

GREAT PROJECT FOR EDUCATION.

But Not a National University in the Accepted Sense of the Term—Scheme on Vast Scale.

It was explained this morning by Carroll D. Wright, United States Commissioner of Labor, who has had the confidence of Andrew Carnegie in the latter's plans for a great educational institution in Washington, that the scheme does not propose a national university, according to the accepted meaning of that term.

It is not proposed to erect a number of monumental buildings, nor to provide laboratories and the various other adjuncts of a university. Mr. Carnegie's scheme contemplates the establishment of a university, but the word will be applied in a new sense, and under the terms of the plan will have a far wider significance than has heretofore been attached to it anywhere in the world.

On an Extensive Scale.

Mr. Carnegie's plan is to carry out on a more extensive scale than was ever before contemplated the act of Congress passed on March 3 last, which gave permission to students and other properly accredited persons to pursue original investigations in the libraries, museums, laboratories, and other institutions of the Government in Washington.

Mr. Carnegie believes the idea which caused this act to be passed may be carried much further. According to his plan every executive department building in Washington and every agricultural experiment station in the United States will become in one sense a university building.

To Provide Millions.

He proposes to provide a fund of \$10,000,000 to enable advanced students and scientific men to pursue their investigations, and the plan is for the Government to co-operate by giving free access to its departmental buildings and public institutions. It is expected that the heads of these departments will lend such co-operation and instruction to investigators as lies in their power. It is not expected, however, that any regularly constituted faculty of instructors will be provided, for the nature of the work to be carried on is to be of the most advanced kind.

The plan of Mr. Carnegie is described by Mr. Wright as a result of the general discussion which has been carried on during the last twenty-five years in relation to the establishment of a national university in Washington. For a number of years the university idea held sway, but about two years ago the matter was taken up by the Washington Academy of Sciences, and this body, in co-operation with the George Washington Memorial Association, formulated a definite plan which differed radically from the university plan contemplated in the earlier years. This resulted last spring in the organization of the Washington Memorial Institution.

The plan was, in brief, as follows:

Suggested Locally.

1. Organization—A private foundation independent of Government support or control.

2. Objects—A. To facilitate the use of the scientific and other resources of the Government for research.

B. To co-operate with universities, colleges, and individuals in securing to properly qualified persons opportunities for advanced study and research. Dr. Daniel C. Gilman, until lately President of Johns Hopkins University, was elected director of the institution.

When Mr. Carnegie came to consider the question of endowing a national university

at Washington he investigated the whole subject and found that an institution devoted to research and training of capable persons was more in accordance with his conceptions than the establishment of a university that would be a rival of the existing universities of the country. However, he was led to this conclusion by the work that had been done by the organizations in Washington, but his action indicator that he had faith in the general plan that had been developed and crystallized in this city.

It is probable that the Washington Memorial Institution will suspend its operations, for it is understood that Mr. Carnegie's plan not only embraces all the proposed activities of the institution but goes far beyond these.

DISCUSSED CARNEGIE'S GIFT.

Cabinet Also Gives Consideration to Philippine Tariff Legislation.

President Roosevelt today informed the members of the Cabinet of the gift which Andrew Carnegie has offered to make for the benefit of higher education and scientific research.

The Cabinet officers discussed the matter at some length, but it was decided to withhold from the public the details of the plan until the leaders in both Houses of Congress can be consulted and their views on the subject learned.

Secretary Root occupied a large part of the time of the meeting with a statement regarding the Philippine tariff legislation growing out of the recent insular decisions. The Administration is most hearty in favor of the Lodge bill, which is of course practically an expression of the views of the Administration.

The efforts at Philippine legislation in the House are not viewed with favor by most members of the Cabinet. Secretary Root is anxious that legislation affecting the islands should be prompt, and his statement this morning was devoted to urging the necessity of the maintenance of the existing tariff in the archipelago and the continuance of the Dingley act's provision in the United States.

IN CHARGE OF DISTRICT AFFAIRS

NEW HOUSE COMMITTEE CHOSEN.

Contains Three New Members—Democratic Representation One Less Than Before, The Personnel.

The House District Committee was announced today by the Speaker with the other committees. Its personnel is as follows:

Republicans—Representatives Babcock of Mississippi, Mudd of Maryland, Jenkins of Mississippi, Mercer of Nebraska, S. W. Smith of Michigan, Allen of Maine, Pearce of Maryland, Wadsworth of New York, Morrell of Pennsylvania, Blackburn of North Carolina, Stewart of New York, Democrats—Meyer of Louisiana, Lattimer of South Carolina, Cowherd of Missouri, Oley of Virginia, Norton of Ohio, and Simms of Tennessee.

Three New Members.

There are three new members on the committee, all of the others having served on the House District Committee in the Fifty-sixth Congress. The new members are Representatives Morrell, Blackburn, and Stewart, all Republicans.

The Democratic representation is one less than in the last Congress.

Those Who Retire.

The new members on the committee take the places of Representatives Sprague, Moss, and George W. White, the colored member from North Carolina, Republicans, and Bertram T. Clayton, Democrat, of New York, who are not members of the present House.

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co. Delightful trips daily at 8:30 p. m. from foot 7th st. to Old Point Comfort, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Newport News. See ad. page 7.

Mr. George W. Driver

will celebrate his thirty-ninth birthday anniversary tomorrow, and will be pleased to see all of his old friends and patrons.

BONINE CASE NEAR ITS END.

Defence Brings Its Testimony to a Close.

ARGUMENT TO BEGIN TOMORROW.

Today's Session Taken Up by the Examination and Cross-Examination of Doctors on Technical Points.

The defence in the Bonine case rested at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Arguments to the jury will begin at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

District Attorney Gould said this morning, before court opened, that it depended altogether on the testimony given by the remaining witnesses for the defence, Drs. Ruffin and Dove, whether he would call any witnesses in rebuttal.

When court convened, Dr. Carr resumed the stand and the District Attorney resumed his cross-examination of the expert.

Fewer Women in Attendance.

There was a great falling off in the number of women at the trial, this morning owing no doubt to an incident that happened yesterday, when they formed the greater portion of the spectators in the court room.

Mr. Gould, who was examining Dr. Carr regarding the condition of Ayres' body, asked the witness a plain question which required a plain answer. Few of the women remained to hear the answer, the question sufficed. They bolted and did not return.

May End This Week.

When the Bonine trial will end is a question. If the defence closes its evidence today, as Mr. Douglas, senior counsel, promised, there is a chance of the case going to the jury in time for a verdict on Saturday.

How Wounds Were Inflicted.

"Dr. Carr, you said yesterday that you thought the wounds were inflicted on Ayres just as Mrs. Bonine described," began Mr. Gould.

"I certainly did."

"Well, describe them," returned the prosecutor.